UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

UNDP

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ENGLISH ONLY

APPROVAL OF UNDP ASSISTANCE TO A PROJECT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF BANGLADESH

Village Forest Inventory (BGD/78/020)

Report of the Administrator*

Date of present approval:	January 1979
Starting date of project activities:	February 1979
Planned completion date:	January 1981
To be executed by:	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
Government implementing agency:	Forestry Department of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forests
Estimated cost of assistance planned under present approval:	$ 343 400
Source of UNDP financing:	Indicative Planning Figure (IPF)

I. Background

1. The Government of Bangladesh is committed to a policy of rural uplift which includes the supply of forest products to the people of the rural areas, as well as to the rural industries and city markets. The Government is also concerned to promote the integration of forest and agricultural crops in the optimum use of scarce land resources, where village forest products are generally grown as part of an interlocking agricultural/forest system in which the surplus is sold or bartered. As there is little current factual information available to the Government on the resources and uses of the products of the non-forest areas or of their potential for further development, assistance is needed to assess the possibilities of promoting rural uplift through the development of non-forest areas as improved sources of forest products for domestic and commercial use.

* In accordance with General Assembly resolution 2688 (XXV) and subsequent authorizations of the UNDP Governing Council, reports are issued seriatim on the approval of UNDP assistance of $250,000 or more (including, if any, assistance financed by Government or by third-party cost sharing).

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II. Objectives and activities

2. The development objective of the project is to contribute to social and economic development in the national rural uplift programme by identifying the improved contribution that the village forest areas can make to this development through improving the capacity of the village forest system to increase raw material supplies in energy (fuel wood), construction materials, food, fodder, minor forest products; by improving village cash incomes by better marketing or decentralizing industries to village centres, and by identifying appropriate strategies and recommending action programmes to realize these contributions. Major activities include a national inventory of village forest resources and their uses, special studies of resource supplies to particular industries and the potential for developing forest supplies from village forests.

III. Inputs

3. UNDP will provide, through the Executing Agency, for the services of a team leader, inventory officer, consultants, administrative support, subcontracts for special studies and surveys, supplies and equipment.

4. The Government will provide the services of a senior officer as national director, a senior field officer, four assistant conservators of forests, training, buildings; equipment and supplies.

IV. Financial data

5. The expenditure components of the planned assistance are as follows:

	$
Personnel	263 400
Subcontract	30 000
Equipment	40 000
Miscellaneous	10 000
	343 400

6 The estimated total value, expressed in US dollars, of inputs provided directly by the Government to the project is $201,400 in kind.

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